

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.
2. Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with John A. Artz on 23OCT08.
3. The application has been amended as follows:

Page 1:

Line 15, ~~--ART--~~ has been deleted.

Page 2:

Line 12, "DISCLOSURE OF INVENTION" has been changed to ~~--SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION--~~,

Line 20, the following two paragraphs have been deleted:

~~--In accordance with the present invention, a metal frame made up of the union of a plurality of extruded elements is provided according to what is specified in Claim 1 and, preferably, in any one of the subsequent claims depending directly or indirectly upon Claim 1.~~

In accordance with the present invention, a method for the fabrication of a metal frame made up of the union of a plurality of extruded elements is provided according to what is specified in Claim 9 and, preferably, in any one of the subsequent claims depending directly or indirectly upon Claim 9.--.

Page 3:

Line 8, "--plate of--" has been deleted.

Page 4:

Line 10, "BEST MODE FOR CARRYING OUT THE INVENTION" has been changed to --DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION--,

Line 14, "constant cross section, are obtained by extrusion, and are joined" has been changed to --constant cross section and are obtained by extrusion. The linear bars 2 are joined--.

Page 5:

Line 2, "plane" has been changed to --planar--,

Line 3, "metal sheets 7, which are set" has been changed to --metal sheets 7. The sheets 7 are set--,

Line 8, "plane" has been changed to --planar--,

Line 23, "Figure 3" has been changed to --Figures 3 and 4--.

Abstract:

The Abstract has been replaced with the following:

-- A metal frame made up of a plurality of linear bars, which have a constant cross section, are obtained by extrusion, and are joined to one another by means of welding at structural nodes defined by jointing bodies provided with pockets for housing the linear bars. The jointing bodies have box type structures and are made up of the union of respective a load-bearing element, which is obtained by extrusion and has a given direction of extrusion, with a pair of plane closing metal sheets, which are set perpendicular to the direction of extrusion and are welded to the load-bearing element on opposite sides of the load-bearing element. The load-bearing element may

also be formed by the lateral union of a number of simple elements, each of the simple elements being obtained directly via extrusion and having a given direction of extrusion parallel to the direction of extrusion of the other simple elements, and wherein the simple elements are joined to one another laterally by mechanical slots.--.

Claim 24:

Line 2, --and built according to Claim 19-- has been deleted,

Line 5, --each of said jointing bodies, -- have been deleted due to repetitiveness.

4. The following changes to the drawings have been approved by the examiner and agreed upon by applicant: new Figures 5-9 better illustrating the simple elements and correcting the frame shown in Figure 5 should be submitted. In a conversation with the Applicants' representative, John A. Artz, it was agreed that new drawings will be submitted properly illustrating isometric views of load-bearing elements made of many simple elements, especially showing how the jointing body shown in Figures 3 and 4 can be formed from many simple elements of two different lengths. The jointing body shown in Figures 6-8 was also agreed to be shown formed by many simple elements. If the linear bar (2) employed with the newly illustrated simple-element embodiment is different than the linear bars shown in Figure 5, then a drawing illustrating the different cross section and how it mates against a load bearing element formed of simple elements will also be provided.

In order to avoid abandonment of the application, applicant must make these above agreed upon drawing changes.

5. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: the prior art does not show or make obvious Applicant's simple elements making up a load-bearing element.

6. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Paul A. Chenevert whose telephone number is (571)272-6657. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri (8:30-5:00).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Glenn D. Dayoan can be reached on 571-272-6659. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/D. Glenn Dayoan/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 3612

Paul A. Chenevert
Examiner
Art Unit 3612

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